# Conference on Disarmament

21 January 2016

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## Note verbale dated 19 January 2016 from the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the joint statement by interested States in support of the Conference delivered at the First Committee of the General Assembly at its seventieth session

The Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament and has the honour to transmit herewith the text of the joint statement by interested states in support of the Conference on Disarmament delivered at the First Committee of the seventieth session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation would be grateful if this note and the attached joint statement could be issued and circulated as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament.

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## Joint Statement in Support of the Conference on Disarmament

1. Recalling the Joint Statements delivered by the like-minded States in the First Committee of the sixty-seventh, sixty-eighth and sixty-ninth sessions of the United Nations General Assembly, we reaffirm our commitment to the resumption of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament without further delay.

2. We are confident that tangible progress in multilateral disarmament and in strengthening international regimes of arms control and non-proliferation can only be achieved within the framework of the existing multilateral disarmament mechanisms, in particular the Conference on Disarmament, taking into due account national security priorities of Member States.

3. We believe that the Conference, as the single multilateral negotiating forum, with its fundamental principle of consensus and its membership, cannot be substituted by any other forum for the purpose of addressing the complex issues in its agenda.

4. We commend the efforts by all the 2015 Presidents of the Conference on Disarmament to reach consensus on a programme of work. At the same time, we are concerned about the lack of progress in this regard.

5. We welcome the re-establishment of the Informal Working Group with a mandate to produce a programme of work robust in substance and progressive over time in implementation and commend the Informal Working Group's Co-Chair Ms. Päivi Kairamo, Ambassador of Finland for her efforts to find an acceptable solution, and welcome the adoption by consensus of the co-chair's report contained in CD/2033.

6. We call on the States participating in the work of the Conference to demonstrate political will in order to reach an agreement on a balanced and comprehensive programme of work and resume its substantive work on the core issues of the agenda of the Conference on Disarmament – nuclear disarmament, a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, prevention of an arms race in outer space, effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons – in accordance with its mandate and its rules of procedure.

7. Pending the adoption of such a programme of work, structured and result-oriented discussions are to be encouraged in the Conference. In this regard we welcome the structured and substantive discussions held by the Conference throughout its 2015 session.

8. We call upon all States concerned to live up to their responsibilities and to exert every effort in order to overcome the long-lasting impasse at the Conference on Disarmament.

New York. 28 October 2015

**States that associated themselves with the joint statement**

Argentina

Armenia

Belarus

China

Ethiopia

India

Iraq

Kazakhstan

Kenya

Myanmar

Nicaragua

Pakistan

Russian Federation

Syrian Arab Republic

Tajikistan

Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Viet Nam

Zimbabwe